

RUNCORN FOOTBALL CLUB

V

WIGAN ATHLETIC.

Pre-Season Friendly. Saturday July 26th 1980. Kick Off 3.00p.m.

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Good afternoon and welcome to Canal Street, for our first Saturday home game of the season. We are delighted to welcome the officials players and supporters of fourth division Wigan Athletic to our ground today. Since the Lancashire side joined the Football League in 1978, they have reached 6th position in the league in both seasons that they competed. However it was in the F.A. Cup last season that the "Latics" made their mark. On the way to playing Everton in the fourth round they defeated Blackpool, (three times finalists since the war), Northwich Victoria after a draw at the Drill Field, and second division glamour club Chelsea at Stamford Bridge. A lone goal from Tommy Gore was enough to send the London side tumbling out of the competition that they had themselves won nine years previously. In the fourth round they came up against mighty Merseysiders Everton and were defeated 3 - 0. But they had the satisfaction of knowing that their following of 20,000 and millions on T.V. thought them unlucky to loose by such a margin. Needless to say Wigan recently announced a record profit from last season, helped by the glorious cup run, and the sale of Joe Hinnigan to second division promotion club Sunderland.

Both managers today, John Williams of Runcorn, and Ian McNeill of Wigan have been recruiting during the summer, and some of their signings no doubt will be making appearances today.

The teams will be chosen from the following. RUNCORN: Eales, Holbrok, Rutter, Seddon, Duff, Knowles, Smith, Quinn, Scott, Joel, Wheeldon, Fraser, Lewis, Brookfield. COLOURS: Green and yellow. WIGAN ATHLETIC Brown, Tait, Davids, Fretwell, Wright, Corrigan, Tierney, Wignall, Henry, Houghton, Quinn, Oliver, Ward. Manager: Ian McNeill, Trainer Kenny Banks. COLOURS: Blue, White.

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